

EARLY SPRING 2022



New 119th Street and I-35 interchange

Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop & Farm horses from left Burt, Chip, and Ace

KANSAS SUPPORTS FUTURE OLATHE HIGHWAY PROJECTS

The State of Kansas has added three significant Olathe improvement projects to the pipeline for highway expansion and modernization.

The projects are included in the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program, which activates state resources for developmental work to examine safety, economic development opportunities and more.

“We appreciate KDOT’s support and investment in these important transportation projects in Olathe.

These projects will greatly enhance safety and relieve traffic congestion for the residents of Olathe,” said City Engineer Nate Baldwin.

The state’s recent announcement doesn’t mean construction will start right away. The I-35 and Santa Fe project, however, is already in the concept phase. City staff are working with the Kansas Department of Transportation on that project’s scheduling, and a public meeting is expected in the spring of 2022.

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Visit [OlatheKS.org](https://www.OlatheKS.org) and click on **NEWS** for additional Olathe news.

Funding allocated in the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program impacts these Olathe area highways:

- **K-10 Highway:** \$223 million to study and expand K-10 between K-7 and I-435
- **I-35:** \$74 million to improve safety between Old-56 Highway and 119th Street
- **I-35 and Santa Fe Street:** \$40 million to improve the interchange



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe we're already two months into 2022. This coming year is shaping up to be a strong one for our community, as the vision of major projects come into focus, and new projects are just around the corner. This, of course, wouldn't be possible without building on the successes of 2021.

Each year residents tell us our community safety is a top priority, and last year we **delivered public safety initiatives** on several fronts. Olathe Fire Station No. 8 opened near West 148th Street and Lakeshore Drive to serve the city's growing southwest area. Last year we also opened the Olathe Fire Academy, where Olathe first responders receive exceptional training. The Olathe Police Department began the mobile Advanced Crisis-Intervention Team (ACT) in 2021 to better address increasing calls for mental health crises. In partnership with the Johnson County Mental Health Center, the Advanced Crisis-Intervention Team directs individuals to appropriate services instead of sending them through the criminal justice system. Last year, 88 percent of the citizens with this particular need, who could have been arrested, instead received help outside of jail, thanks to the team's interventions.

In 2021, Olathe continued **traffic flow improvements** with projects like the new 119th Street and I-35 interchange. The extended Mahaffie Street also opened, providing another way to cross I-35 while reducing congestion on I-35, 151st Street, and U.S. 169 Highway. Traffic delays are down as much as 40 percent during peak hours at the new Old 56 Highway and Lone Elm Road intersection. And traffic is moving better with the widening of Ridgeview Road from 143rd to 151st Street.

MAKING CITY OF OLATHE SERVICES BETTER FOR YOU – 2021 HIGHLIGHTS AND LOOKING FORWARD

If you haven't visited **Downtown Olathe** lately, I encourage you to come see the exciting changes. Construction is underway on a destination Olathe Downtown Library, expected to open in 2023. The new Johnson County Courthouse opened in early 2021. The renewed Johnson County Square is open, offering a welcoming gathering place. Just a block away, residents are moving to Arrello, the new downtown apartments.

Olathe continues to thrive with new residents and business development. Residential building permits for 2021 exceeded the five-year high at 1,204, outpacing the previous five-year high of 1,006 in 2020. Last year, we saw significant investments with projects such as The Crestone Senior Living Community, KCAS Bioanalytical and Biomarker Services, Accelerate 360, and others. In addition, Garmin further invested in Olathe with their 193-acre purchase at the northwest corner of I-35 and U.S. 169 Highway (the former Great Mall site and undeveloped property to the north).

We're committed to **providing healthy and active opportunities** for residents. The popular Indian Creek Park, offering an accessible play area, is now open next to the Indian Creek Library. In west Olathe, work is underway on the new Cedar Creek Trail to connect Lake Olathe to Cedar Lake.

Looking Ahead

In 2022, the City of Olathe continues to support excellent public services and address

residents' priorities. We intend to **keep Olathe one of the safest cities** in the nation by ensuring our staff has the facilities, tools, and resources they need to be successful. Construction begins this year on phase two of the Police Headquarters expansion, which will better serve our growing population and give police the space they need.

More projects will improve traffic flow, such as the 119th Street extension from Nelson Road to Woodland Road. This will offer another route over the west railroad tracks. We'll work closely with the State of Kansas on their plan to improve highways in and around Olathe. *See page one.*

Currently, we're creating a new **Trails and Greenways Guiding Plan** with residents' input. This updated trail development and maintenance plan will ensure Olatheans continue to have quality amenities to stay active and enjoy the great outdoors.

We've accomplished much in the past year, and undoubtedly your input and involvement will make it possible for us to advance even more in the months ahead. It is an honor for me and fellow Councilmembers to work with this outstanding community as we continue to make Olathe one of the best cities in the country.

Sincerely,

John W. Bacon
John Bacon
Mayor



The new 119th Street and I-35 interchange is better moving traffic with its reconfiguration and additional lanes. Traffic data shows morning peak hour delays reduced by 20 to 40 percent and evening peak hour delays reduced by 7 to 27 percent.

CAMPBELL RETIRES FROM OLATHE CITY COUNCIL



In January 2022, Larry Campbell announced his retirement from the Olathe City Council, following nearly 30 years of service on the Council. He most recently served as the Ward 1 Councilmember and as mayor pro tem. Campbell served two terms as Olathe’s mayor: 1995-1997 and 1997-1999.

Campbell also served in the Kansas State House of Representatives and as the Kansas State Director of the Budget. He has worked in the banking industry for more than 35 years.

“Giving yourself in service to help your neighbors and a community is perhaps one of the most challenging

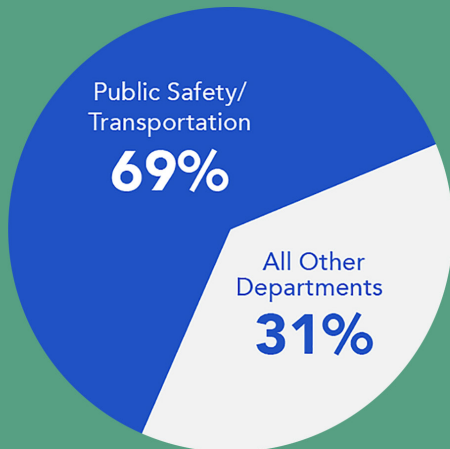
and rewarding endeavors a person can do with their life,” said Campbell.

Olathe Mayor John Bacon said, “It’s been a pleasure and a joy to serve alongside Larry Campbell. He was an exemplary public servant, a steadfast and strong Councilmember and mayor, and a good friend. We will miss him and his wisdom and wish him all the best in his much-deserved retirement.”

The Olathe City Council will fill the Ward 1 City Council position following a Council committee recommendation. The individual appointed will serve through the end of the current term – January 2024.

FOCUSING ON YOUR PRIORITIES

Nearly 70 percent of the 2022 general fund budget is allocated for transportation and public safety services — far and away residents’ top priorities.



PROGRESS AS PROMISED

Improvements to Ridgeview Road, 143rd Street to 151st Street, are substantially complete. Traffic is moving on the newly-widened roadway with a dedicated center turn lane. New traffic roundabouts are installed on Ridgeview Road at Sheridan Bridge Lane and at Frontier Lane. The project accommodates bicyclists and pedestrians with:

- Five-foot wide bike lanes
- Five-foot wide sidewalk along the west side of the roadway
- Eight-foot wide shared use path along the east side of the roadway

IMPORTANT CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Regular Business Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
OlatheKS.org/ServicesDirectory

EMERGENCY911

Emergency TDD/TTY Calls911

GENERAL INFORMATION
(TDD/Voice)971-8600

CUSTOMER SERVICE
(Billing, Trash, Water & Sewer)
 1385 S. Robinson.....971-9311

FIRE ADMINISTRATION
(Non-Emergency)
 1225 S. Hamilton Circle.....971-7900

OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Indian Creek
 16100 W. 135th St.971-6835

OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Temporary Location
 1078A W. Santa Fe971-6850

OLATHE PARKS & RECREATION /COMMUNITY CENTER *(TDD/Voice)*
 1205 E. Kansas City Rd971-8563

POLICE DEPARTMENT
 501 E. 56 Highway971-7500

HUMAN RESOURCES
 100 E. Santa Fe971-8735

OLATHE CITY COUNCIL

John Bacon
 Mayor
 913-971-8500
 (City office)
jbacon@olatheks.org

Wes McCoy
 At-Large
 913-269-1035
rwmccoy@olatheks.org

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 Mayor Pro Tem
 913-768-8285
kpgilmore@olatheks.org

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amickelson@olatheks.org

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KING EVENT HIGHLIGHTS “JUSTICE IS LOVE OUT LOUD”

The 22nd annual Olathe Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration underscored efforts to quell bullying and discrimination of others based on race, gender, or religious beliefs. More than 1,000 Olathe students submitted entries focused on a Justice Is Love Out Loud theme in a visual and written arts contest.

STUDENT CONTEST WINNERS



BEST IN SHOW

Austin Allen, Olathe South High School, multi-media entry titled “How Can There Be”

MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTI-MEDIA

First place: Madelyn Bartlett, Frontier Trail, “Love Is”
Second place: Bridget Simmons and **Ally Rudisill**, Prairie Trail, “Activists Who Changed the World”
Third place: Brielle Diaz and **Nyanyur Ring**, Indian Trail, “Famous Quotes Out Loud”

MIDDLE SCHOOL WRITING

First place: Maya McClain, Santa Fe Trail, “A Call to Action”
Second place: Adah Anthonysamy, Prairie Trail, “MLK Jr.’s Way of Justice and Love”
Third place: Devin Tremain, Mission Trail, “Civil Right Poem”

MIDDLE SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

First place tie: Anna Roller, Santa Fe Trail, “Inspired to Rise” and **Naomi Hess**, Summit Trail, “Choose Courage”
Second place: Omar Hasian, Frontier Trail, “Mistakes Can Always be Fixed”
Third place: Ariana Easter, Frontier Trail, “Justice Pops Out”

HIGH SCHOOL MULTI-MEDIA

First place: Austin Allen, Olathe South, “How Can There Be”
Second place: Kate Marshall, Olathe South, “Love in Action”

Third place: Kellan Harris, Garrett Howard and **Julia Fales**, Olathe Northwest, “Flower Boy”

HIGH SCHOOL WRITING

First place: Elissa Almaguer-Smith, Olathe East, “Love Cannot Be Based on Reciprocation”
Second place: Donyell Nichols, Olathe West, “Hate Erodes but Forgiveness Shows Love”
Third place: Skylar Saragusa, Olathe South, “Hopeless Revolution”

HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

First place: Brenna Barnes, Olathe North, “In Memory Of”
Second place: Morrigan Shaffer, Olathe North, “Hope and Rebirth”
Third place: Chase Cheney, Olathe West, “Achieving Unconditional Love”

Visit [OlatheSchools.org](https://www.OlatheSchools.org) to view more Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration winning entries.

WHAT’S BEING BUILT IN OLATHE

Olathe Police Department Headquarters

The Olathe Police Headquarters, located at 501 E. Old 56 Highway, will undergo an expansion to replace the existing single-story administration office with a new two-story 46,000 square foot addition. The enhancements will provide improved safety and security and will accommodate office, training, and community space needs.



Subaru of Olathe

A new Subaru of Olathe dealership is coming to the northeast corner of 119th Street and Renner Boulevard. The new 58,000 square foot building will replace the current location at 505 S. Fir St. The new facility includes space for 300 vehicles for sale, a dog park, and outdoor seating areas for customers.



PROVIDE YOUR VIEWS FOR OLATHE TRAILS AND GREENWAYS



Now is the time to share your views on how Olathe trails and greenways should be developed and maintained. The City of Olathe is creating an Olathe Trails and Greenways Guiding Plan to develop recommendations for advancing the trail network. Involve the family and join the planning fun.

Share your ideas at one of these informal and interactive workshops:

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

March 1 – Olathe Community Center, 5-6 p.m.
Community Room C, 1205 E. Kansas City Rd.

March 2 – Olathe City Hall, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
City of Governors Meeting Room, 100 E. Santa Fe St.

March 2 – Indian Creek Library, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Board Room, 16100 W. 135th St.

March 3 – Indian Creek Library, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Board Room, 16100 W. 135th St.

March 14 – Indian Creek Library, 5-6 p.m.
Board Room, 16100 W. 135th St.

March 15 – Indian Creek Library 12-1 p.m.
Board Room, 16100 W. 135th St.

More Ways to Share Trails and Greenways Views

Share your views and your likes and dislikes on an interactive map and take a brief survey at

OlatheKS.org/TrailsGreenways

Input is requested by mid-March 2022.

The Trails and Greenways Plan will be completed in the fall of 2022.

PARKS SALES TAX FUNDS NEW TRAILS AND MORE

Construction continues on the Cedar Creek Streamway Trail that will connect Lake Olathe and Cedar Lake. The voter approved Parks Sales Tax is the primary funding source for the new trail in west Olathe. Trail users can expect to enjoy the first phase of the trail in 2022, which will extend 1.8 miles south of Lake Olathe.

Design is underway on the second phase to complete the 4.1 mile connection to Cedar Lake. Ultimately, the Cedar Creek Trail will connect to Johnson County's Cedar Niles Trail northwest of Lake Olathe.

The most recent Parks Sales Tax renewal has brought to life numerous opportunities for active Olathe lifestyles, including:

- Meadow Lane Trail
- Indian Creek Park, by the new Indian Creek Library
- Fairview Park improvements



Crews install pavement on the Cedar Creek Trail's first phase in west Olathe.

- Woodland Hills Park
- Raven Ridge Park improvements
- Black Bob Bay improvements
- Lake Olathe Park
- Lone Elm Park, phase 2

NEW TECHNOLOGY HELPS MONITOR WEATHER DATA ON STREETS

When winter weather strikes, a new technology is helping Street Maintenance staff proactively take street treatment safety measures and make cost effective decisions.

Road pavement and air temperatures, dew points, and relative humidity are among the weather information monitored with the Frost Technology sensor systems. Weather data and images are sent to staff every 20 minutes, plus the system can alert staff if weather conditions require preventive actions or deploying winter maintenance equipment. The advanced infrared monitoring system is located at 10 of Olathe's major intersections and bridges.



Weather Data Sensor Locations

- 119th Street bridge at I-35
- 119th Street and Strang Line Road
- 151st Street and Black Bob Road
- Lone Elm Road and College Boulevard
- Lone Elm bridge over I-35
- Santa Fe Street and Hedge Lane
- Old 56 Highway and Lone Elm Road
- Ridgeview Road and K-10 Highway
- South Cedar Creek Parkway and West 103rd Street
- Santa Fe Street and Mur-Len Road

KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TORNADO WATCH AND A WARNING

The National Weather Service issues a tornado watch when weather conditions in an area indicate an increased risk for severe weather that may be capable of producing a tornado. Warnings are issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Plan before a watch or warning is issued.

Staying informed could save your life. Take steps now to receive timely information about severe weather conditions:

- Set up your mobile devices to receive weather information and alerts from trusted sources.
- Register with **NotifyJoCo.org** for local weather alert options – it's free!
- Monitor local weather conditions provided by local radio and television.
- Consider purchasing a NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio.

REMEMBER, OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS ARE NOT DESIGNED TO ALERT PEOPLE WHO ARE INDOORS.

When a tornado warning is issued, FEMA suggests you immediately go to a FEMA "safe room" or a small, interior windowless room in a sturdy building on the lowest level. Underground is best. Learn how to build a FEMA safe room in your home or small business at

[fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/safe-rooms/resources](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/safe-rooms/resources)

If you have a question about severe weather or emergency management, call the Olathe Fire Department's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Unit at 913-971-7900.



Forty-three sirens help protect Olathe. These outdoor warning devices are not designed to be heard indoors.



The Olathe Street Maintenance Division sponsored a residential snowplow naming contest at the end of 2021. Residents submitted hundreds of entries from which Streets personnel selected the winners.

On January 14, 2022, a special guest joined snow crews to help announce the winning names. We bet you can guess his favorite..

The 15 residential snowplow names:

- Tyreek Chill
- Snow Devil
- Darth Blader
- Snowbi-Wan Kenobi
- Copito de Nieve
- Sleetwood Mac
- Sir Plows-a-Lot
- Blizzard of Oz
- Chuck Snowrris
- Luke Snowwalker
- Oh Snow U Didn't
- Plow Bunyan
- Sled Zeppelin
- Saltzilla
- Santa Fe Scraper



APPLY NOW TO BE AN OLATHE LIFEGUARD
 Visit OlatheKS.org/Jobs
 Find information about lifeguard training, open to those 15 years and older at:
<https://bit.ly/LifeguardTraining22>

Notify JoCo
 Notify JoCo is the way to get emergency notifications about weather warnings, public safety alerts, and water main breaks. If you haven't signed up for this notification system, do so at NotifyJoCo.org. There are options for customizing your locations and contact preferences to get alerts at home, work, by phone, email, or text.

OlatheConnect

Look up information or submit a service request 24/7.
OlatheKS.org/OlatheConnect

Stay Informed

Receive Olathe news and updates by email or text message. **Click on e-notification or the envelope icon at OlatheKS.org.**

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 323
Olathe, KS

CONNECT WITH US



Apps available on the App Store and Google Play

OLATHE CONNECT **OLATHE** TrashDay

15TH ANNUAL



APRIL 9-10, 2022

Since 2007, the tournament has helped more than 30 first responder families affected by serious medical conditions and death.

SUPPORT LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS

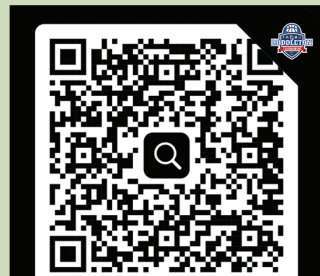
NEW YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

FOR GRADES THREE THROUGH 12

SIGN UP BY APRIL 1

OFFICER CY MIDDLETON

Cyrus (Cy) Middleton, Olathe police officer, passed away 14 years ago after a battle with lung cancer. In honor of Cy, all event proceeds go to first responder families in need.



REGISTER HERE!

For more information, visit CyMiddletonMemorial.org or contact Olathe Police Sergeant Joel Yeldell: 913-971-7774

